

the onward progress of the church. The aim of the faithful pastor is to have the church a success, and if you would aid him in this work, then give him your regular attendance at services; nothing will aid the pastor more in his pulpit work than to see a full attendance on the part of his parishioners, and nothing is more detrimental to the pastor and church than for the members to remain away from church, as some do and then complain because the church does not prosper. Shame on such members. Whatever you do, be punctual in your attendance at church.

Then the congregation can aid the pastor by speaking favorable of him to all men. Do not be ashamed of your pastor. If you are disposed of him and get one that you are not ashamed of, then hold him up at a throne of grace as a subject of prayer. Pray for your pastor, and that in his presence, too. Treat him with that respect that he deserves, but do not spoil him. And then visit him, if he lives among you. Some people complain wonderfully about the preacher never visiting, when possibly they have never been in the ministers house.

He may have a family, a wife who is sharing the hardships of a minister's life, who has come among you a stranger. Visit her, make her feel that you respect her along with other people at least, and that will aid the pastor wonderfully.

Then again, the congregation can aid the pastor by becoming acquainted with him. Endeavor to meet him at every service, shake hands with him, be friendly, be sociable. If you will do so you will never have it to say that "the preacher never shook hands with me." And whatever you do, do not be afraid of him. Associate with him, admit him into your company. Converse with him on subjects pertaining to the success of the cause of the church. Be free.

Then the congregation can aid the pastor by seeing that the pastor receives his salary. The pastor and his family cannot live on promises; he cannot travel on promises, nor buy groceries, nor dry goods, nor pay rent on promises. Therefore aid your pastor by seeing that he receives his salary, that he may meet all his obligations, and let it not be said, that your congregation owes the minister, because when your congregation gets in the arrears, the minister thinks that you think that his work is not worth the money, or he would get his salary, and is therefore discouraged.

So the congregation can aid the pastor by first, regular attendance at services. Second, by recommending the pastor to all people. Third, by praying for him and for his success, and by visiting him and his family; also by becoming acquainted with him, and cultivating your social qualities, and again, by a paid up salary.

We have not the liberty to choose whether we will serve or not. All the liberty we have is to choose our master.—Sanderson.

The Home

My Prayer

Father, lead me day by day,
Ever in thine own sweet way;
Teach me to be pure and true,
Show me what I ought to do.

When in danger, make me brave;
Make me know that thou canst save;
Keep me safe by thy dear side;
Let me in thy love abide.

When I'm tempted to do wrong,
Make me steadfast, wise and strong;
And when all alone I stand
Shield me with thy mighty hand.

When my heart is full of glee,
Help me to remember thee,—
Happy most of all to know
That my Father loves me so.

May I see the good and bright
When they pass before my sight;
May I hear the heavenly voice
When the pure and wise rejoice.

May I do the good I know,
Be thy loving child below,
Then at last go home to thee,
Evermore thy child to be.

—The Child's Companion.

The Kind of Religion We Want

Helpful Thoughts

We want religion that softens the step and turns to melody and fills the eye with sunshine and checks the impatient exclamation and harsh rebuke; a religion that is polite, deferential to superiors, considerate to friends; a religion that goes into the family and keeps the husband from being cross when the dinner is late, and keeps the wife from fretting when the husband tracks the newly-washed floor with his boots, and makes the husband mindful of the scraper and the door mat; keeps the mother patient when the baby is cross, and amuses the children as well as instructs them; cares for the servants besides paying them promptly; projects the honeymoon into the harvest-moon, and makes the happy home like the eastern fig tree, bearing on its bosom at once the tender blossom and the glory of the ripening fruit. We want a religion that shall interpose between the ruts and gullies and rocks of the highway and the sensitive souls that are traveling over them.

Keep the Children Busy

The Ladies' Journal.

Teach the children to do little things about the house. It trains them to be useful, not awkward, in later and more important affairs; it gives them occupation while they are small, and it really is an assistance to the mother in the end, altho she always feels during the training period that it is much easier to do things herself than to show another how. This last excuse has done much to make selfish, idle, unhandy members of an older society, and should be remembered in its effects, by the mother, while her little ones are beginning to learn all things, good and bad, at her knee. Occupation makes happiness, and occupation cannot be acquired too young.

Discouraged Parents

C. H. WETHERBE

There is a vast deal of unwritten history pertaining to the experiences of Christian parents in relation to their unconverted children which, if made known to us, would be intensely interesting, and also quite instructive. What strenuous struggles in secret prayer for the conversion of children, and especially those who are going headlong in vice, there have been! Parental hearts have been so weighted with anxiety for the salvation of children that it has seemed to the burdened ones that they would utterly break down under the tremendous weight. And when the burden has been the greatest, then it has seemed to the praying parent that the wild son was growing worse than ever before. How exceedingly discouraged the parents became! For awhile it has appeared to them that the boy was past all hope, and it looked as tho it were quite useless to pray for him. Indeed, the temptation has been strong to entirely quit praying for him. The father has said to himself, "The more I pray for that boy the harder in heart he becomes and the further away from God and Christ and conversion he appears to be." And perhaps at times the mother feels very much the same way. It may be that a daughter has gotten in evil company and has become wholly fascinated with sinful pleasures. She has become calloused to the tender appeals of her mother, and she laughs at her mother's warning entreaties. There have been tens of thousands of such instances. And I have often wondered how children, especially those who belong to good families, and whose home influences have been religiously wholesome, could continue to be so heartless and so obstinate while knowing something of the deep anxiety of their Christian parents in their behalf. It must be attributed to the blindness of heart which accompanies a very depraved nature.

Those who are not parents cannot begin to understand the struggles and discouragements of Christian parents who have even only one child unconverted. Married people without any children cannot appreciate their experience. And what a discipline it is! How it brings out of the soul its best qualities! The whole heart is thus stirred to its profoundest depths. But the discouraged ones should not lose their hold on God. By and by the lost child may suddenly come into the Lord's kingdom.

Sisters' S. C. E.

From the Field

Ashland, with the examinations, the entertainments, and the commencement exercises of the last week is a thing of the past. A number went to the Ohio Conference, another company to Boston, some went to their homes, and a few remained. I am on my way East but scarcely hope to reach home before sometime in August. After a